

APPENDIX H

MANUAL OF THE GUIDON

The guidon is a company, battery, or troop identification flag. It is present at all unit formations unless otherwise directed by the commander.

When armed with a rifle, the guidon bearer slings the weapon behind his back with the sling diagonally across his chest and the muzzle end up and to the right.

H-1. BASIC GUIDON POSITIONS

This paragraph describes basic guidon positions and how to assume them.

a. When the unit is formed, the guidon bearer is one step in front of and two 15-inch left steps to the right of and facing the person forming the unit (the person forming the unit is facing the unit.) If the first sergeant forms the unit, the guidon bearer steps forward three steps on the command **POST**.

b. To face with the guidon, raise the ferrule 1 inch off the marching surface by bending the right elbow slightly. After executing the movement, automatically lower the ferrule to the *Order* position. Keep the staff vertical throughout the movement.

c. Execute facing movements, marching movements, *Present Arms (Present Guidon)*, and *Rest* movements with the unit. During manual of arms movements, remain at *Order Guidon* except for *Present Arms* (Figure H-1, page H-2).

d. When in a line formation and the company is faced to the right for a marching movement, face to the right in marching, assume the *Double-Time* position (Figure H-7, page H-8) and double-time from that position to a position five steps forward of and centered on the squad leaders of the first platoon. If the company commander joins the formation at the head of the column (six steps in front of and centered on the squad leaders), execute two left steps.

e. If a **platoon** is authorized a guidon or phase banner (in training units for example), the bearer's post is one step in front of and two 15-inch steps to the right of and facing the person forming the platoon. When the formation is faced to the right for a marching movement, the bearer executes in the same manner as explained above, except that his post is three steps in front of and centered on the squad leaders. If the platoon leader is present and at his post, the bearer's post is one step to the rear and two 15-inch steps to the left of the platoon leader.

f. When the guidon bearer is marching at his post in a column formation during a *Column Left (Right)*, he executes a *Column Half Left (Right)* on the command of execution and inclines as necessary to maintain his post.

NOTE: Execute raised guidon only on the preparatory commands for ***Present, ARMS; Eyes, RIGHT***; and on the preparatory command ***Order of Order, ARMS*** following the execution of *Present Arms* and *Eyes Right*. Also execute *Raised Guidon* on the preparatory command ***Ready of Ready, FRONT***.

H-2. ORDER GUIDON

At *Order Guidon (Position of Attention)*, keep the ferrule on the marching surface and touching the outside of the right foot, opposite the ball of the right foot. Hold the staff in the right hand in the “U” formed by the fingers (extended and joined pointing downward) and thumb. Keep the right hand and arm behind the staff. Rest the staff against the hollow of the shoulder (Figure H-1).

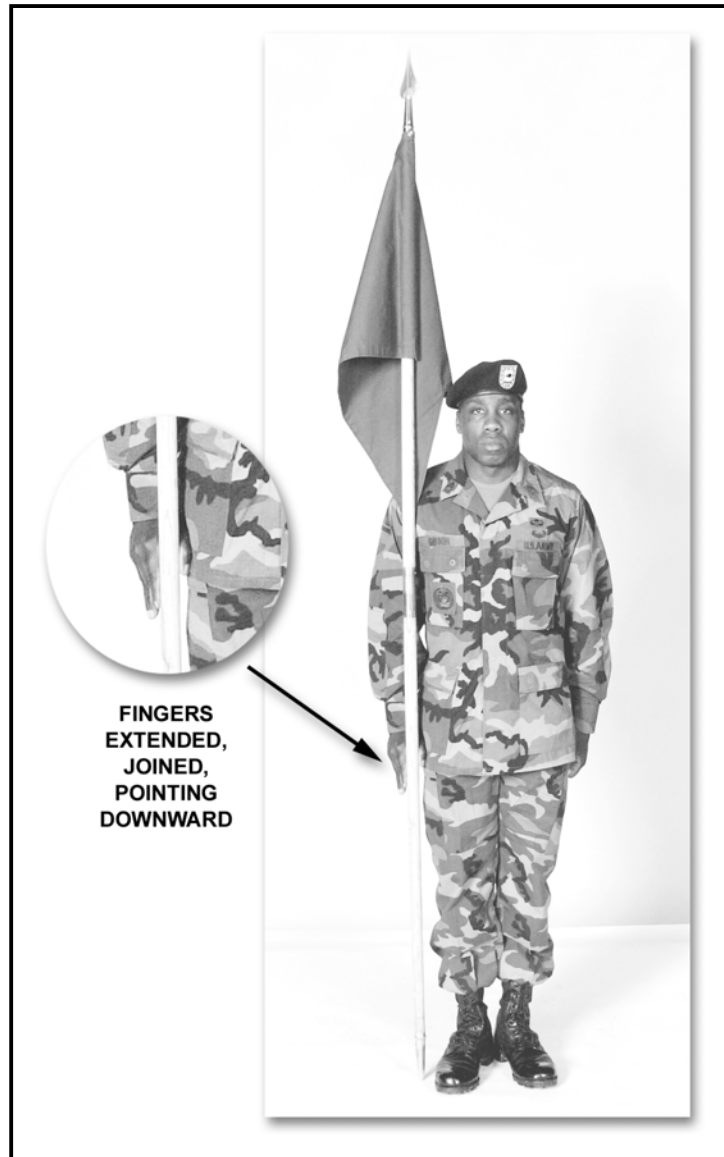


Figure H-1. Order Guidon.

H-3. REST POSITIONS

To assume *Rest* positions, execute the following actions.

- a. On the preparatory command ***Parade***, slide the right hand up the staff until the forearm is horizontal and grasp the staff (1, Figure H-2). On the command of execution

REST, thrust the staff straight forward keeping the ferrule on the marching surface until the arm is fully extended, and at the same time, execute *Parade Rest* as in individual drill (2, Figure H-2).

b. *Stand At Ease* is the same as *Parade Rest*, except that the eyes and head are turned toward the commander.

c. Execute *At Ease* and *Rest* with the guidon from the *Order Guidon* position.

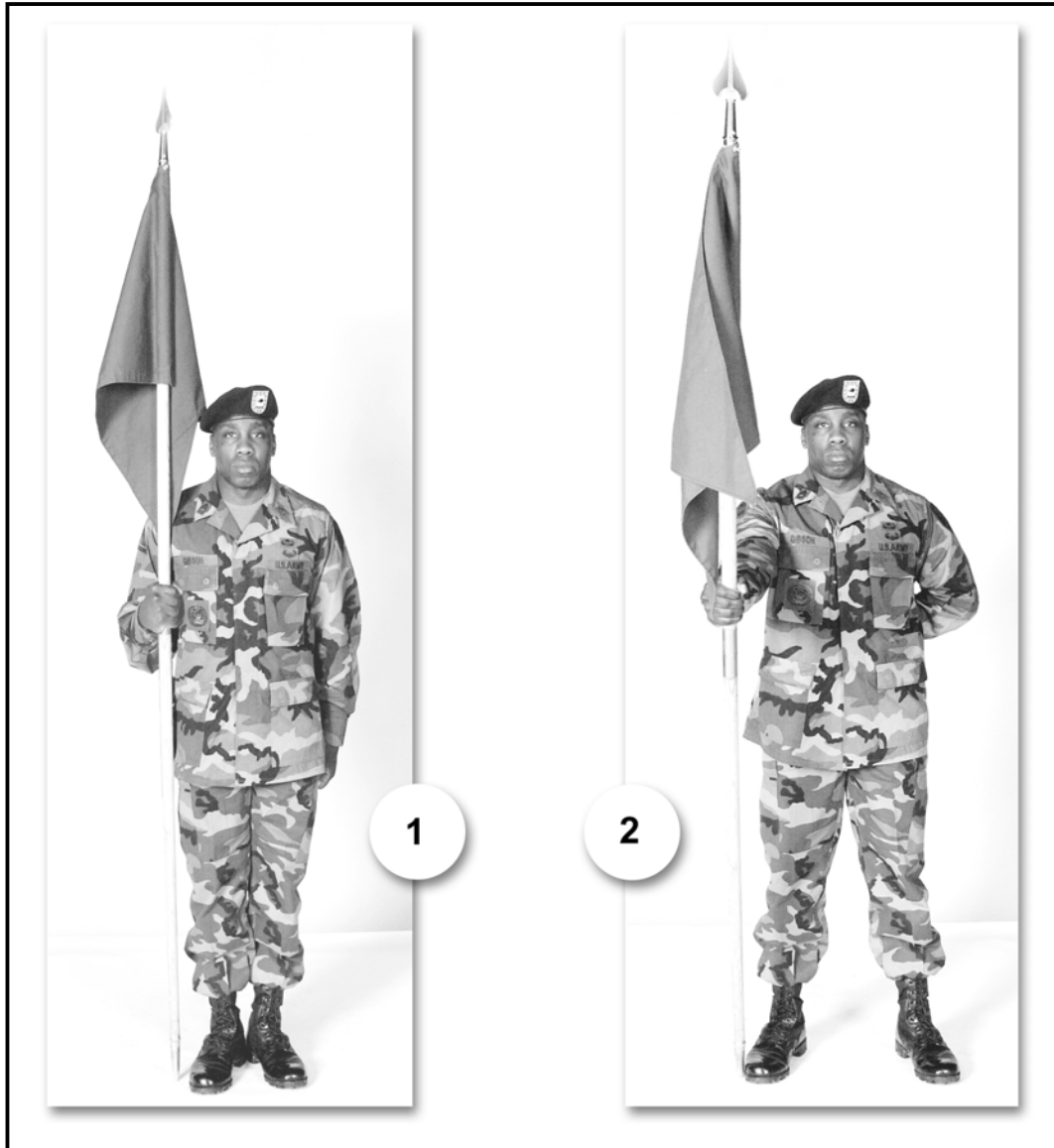


Figure H-2. Parade Rest.

H-4. CARRY GUIDON

To assume the position of *Carry Guidon*, execute the following actions.

a. On the preparatory command for marching movements, execute *Carry Guidon* from *Order Guidon* by reaching across the body with the left hand (forearm horizontal)

and grasping the staff (1, Figure H-3). Raise the staff vertically 6 inches allowing the staff to slide through the right hand. While the staff is sliding through the right hand, release the grasp and regrasp the staff with right thumb to the front, pointed downward and on line with the seam of the trousers. On the command of execution **MARCH**, return the left hand smartly to the left side and simultaneously step off (2, Figure H-3).

b. To resume *Order Guidon* from *Carry Guidon*, reach across the body with the left hand (forearm horizontal) and grasp the staff. Let the staff slide through the hands until the ferrule touches the marching surface. Regrasp the staff in the same manner as in *Order Guidon* and then return the left hand sharply to the side as in the position of attention.

c. When double-timing, carry the guidon diagonally across the body in the same manner as *Port Arms*.

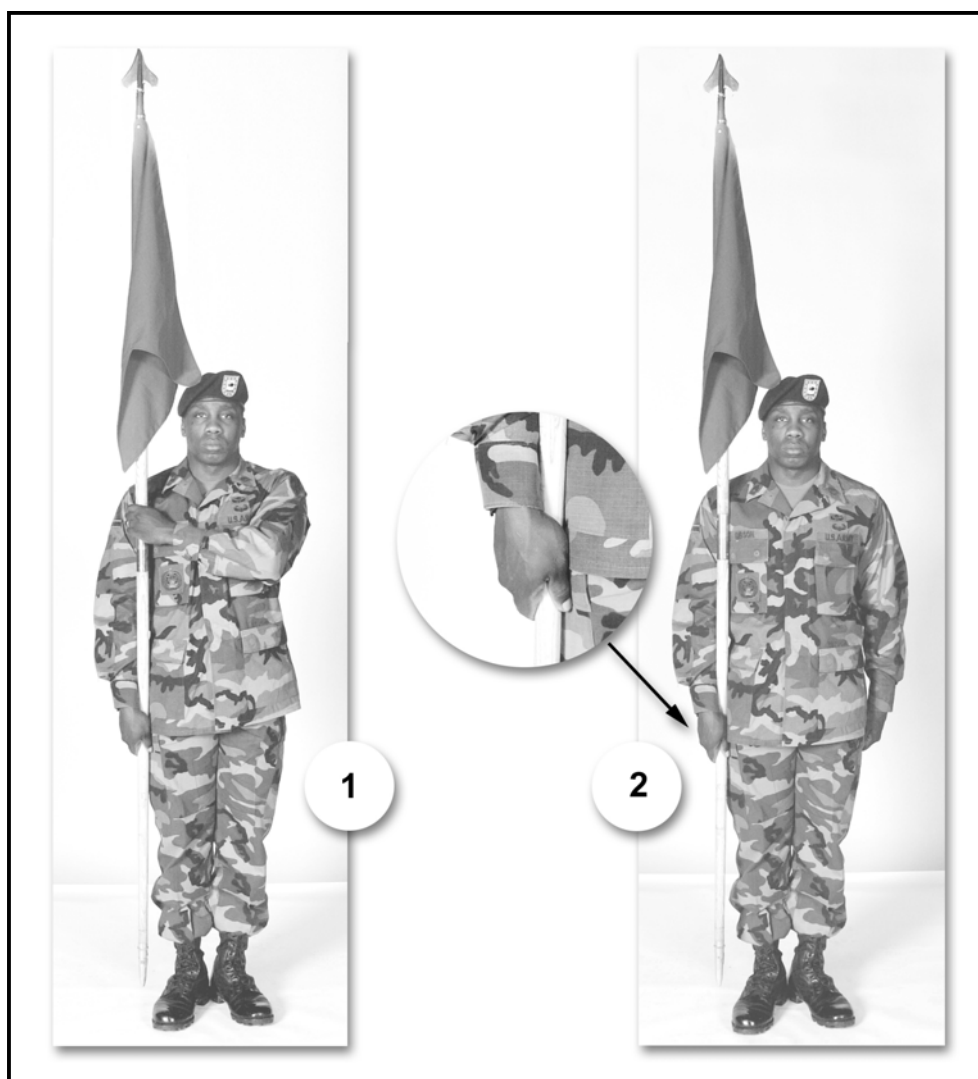


Figure H-3. Carry position.

H-5. RAISED GUIDON

On the preparatory command *Present* of *Present, ARMS* and *Eyes* of *Eyes, RIGHT*, raise the guidon vertically, by grasping the staff with the right hand. Raise the guidon with the right hand while simultaneously moving the left hand (with palm to the rear) across the body to guide the guidon (1, Figure H-4). Keep raising the guidon until the right hand is on line with the right shoulder. Keep the right elbow into the side. Hold the guidon in this position until the command of execution is given (2, Figure H-4).

NOTE: When executing *Raised Guidon* from *Carry Guidon*, the bearer changes his grip to the *Order Guidon* position when he grasps the staff with his left hand. He then executes *Raised Guidon* as previously described. The bearer returns to *Carry Guidon* from *Raised Guidon* as described in paragraph H-4.

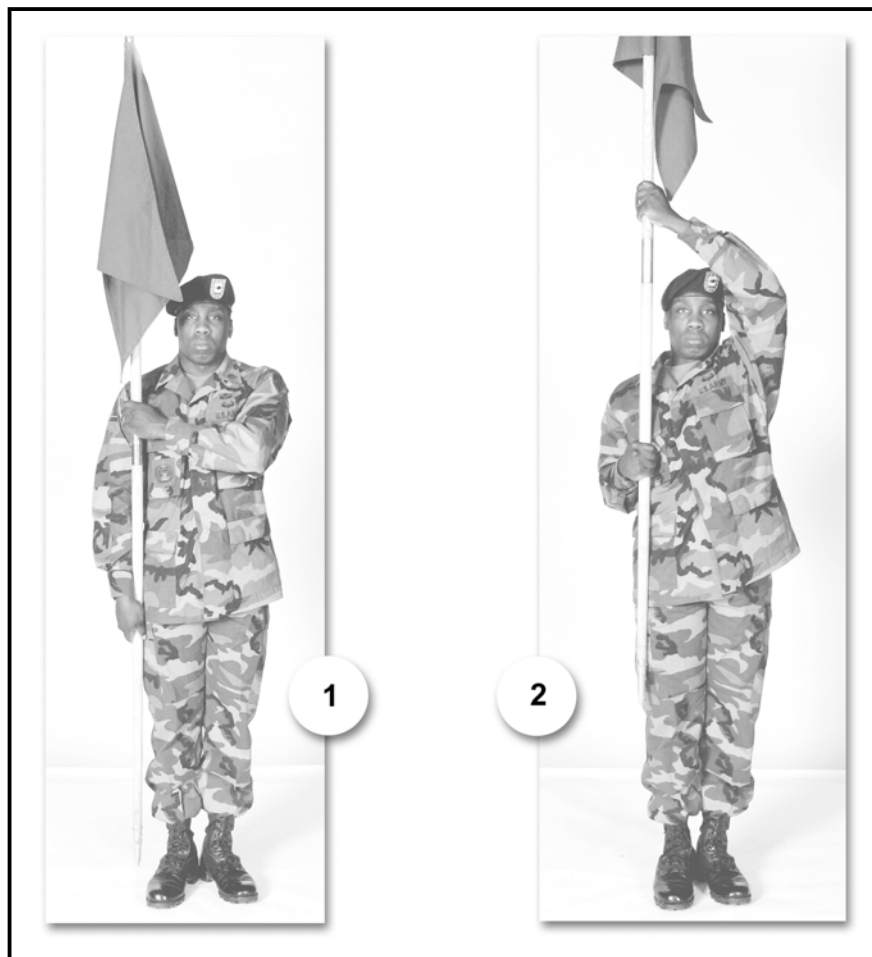


Figure H-4. Raised Guidon.

H-6. PRESENT GUIDON

To assume this position, execute the following actions.

a. On the preparatory commands for **Present ARMS** and **Eyes RIGHT**, execute *Raised Guidon*. On the command of execution, lower the guidon to the front using the right hand, keeping the left hand in the same position as *Raised Guidon* until the guidon is in the horizontal position resting under the arm pit. As soon as the staff is horizontal, return the left hand sharply to the left side (Figure H-5).

b. During a review, execute *Eyes Right* as the guidon is presented on the command of execution **RIGHT**. Move the head and eyes to the front as the guidon is raised on the command **Ready of Ready, FRONT**.

c. On the command **Order** of **Order, ARMS** or **Ready of Ready, FRONT**, regrasp the staff with the left hand at its original position and execute *Raised Guidon*. On the command of execution **ARMS** or **FRONT**, lower the guidon back to the carry or order position.



Figure H-5. Present Guidon.

H-7. GUIDON BEARER'S SALUTE

When the guidon bearer (not in formation) has to salute from the order or carry position, the *Salute* is given with the left hand. To achieve this position, execute the following actions.

- a. Move the left hand sharply to a position so that the first joint of the forefinger is touching the staff. The fingers and thumb are extended and joined, palm down, wrist straight, and forearm horizontal (Figure H-6).

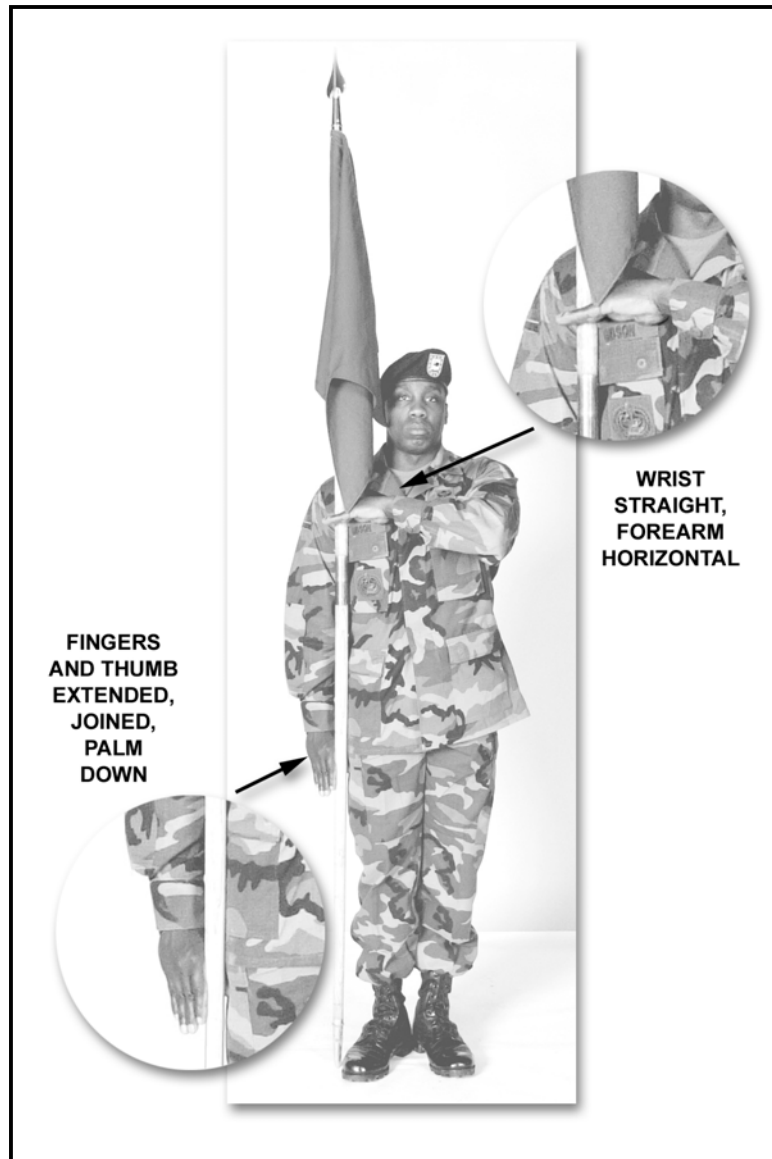


Figure H-6. Guidon Bearer's Salute.

- b. After the *Salute* is acknowledged, return the left hand sharply to the side.
- c. When at *Double Time* (not in formation), return to *Quick Time*, returning the guidon to the carry position and render the guidon *Salute* as previously described. Upon completing the *Salute* return to the carry position and resume *Double Time* (Figure H-7).



Figure H-7. Double Time.